

Idaho Logging Safety News

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Division of Building Safety, Logging Safety Bureau

Dirk Kempthorne, Governor
Dave Munroe, Administrator

ANNUAL FIRST AID TRAINING

Yes, it's that time of year again. The annual first aid classes put on by Idaho Logging Safety and the Associated Logging Contractors, will be starting in early March and continuing into April. As in past years we will be covering first aid and emergency rescue, plus the required annual training in Hazard Communication, Tagout-Energy Control, Blood Borne Pathogens and Hearing Conservation. We have made some changes in the material so if you came last year the "show" should be interesting and informative. The classes will count 8 credits towards your Pro-Logger accreditation. As in past years the local equipment dealers will be providing rolls and coffee at 7 AM and the classes will start promptly at 8 AM. One change this year is that many of the classes will not have an after-noon session - consequently there will be no lunch provided.

You need to check the schedules on the following pages, however, because some classes will be followed by a 1 ½ day LEAP update and some will be followed by ½ day fire safety training. We continue to hear success stories from loggers when an emergency situation occurs. Some of the material may seem repetitious but IT DOES PAY OFF!!

Please contact the ALC office at (208) 667-6473 or 1-800-632-8743 if you need more information.
SEE SCHEDULE ON PAGE 2 !

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THE BOSS WANTS TO KNOW IF YOU
COULD PUT SOME CORKS ON THIS THING?

ANNUAL FIRST AID TRAINING

(continued)

March 2, 2004 **	Bonnors Ferry	Boundary County Fairgrounds
March 3, 2004	Sandpoint	Bonner County Fairgrounds
March 4, 2004 **	Coeur d'Alene	Armory, 5555 E Seltice Way
March 9, 2004	Kellog	Elk's Lodge, 202 Mckinley Way
March 10, 2004 **	St. Maries (1)	Eagle's, 707 Main Street
March 11, 2004	Potlatch	VFW Hall
March 16, 2004	New Meadows	New Meadows Senior Center
March 17, 2004 **	Orofino	Armory, 10210 Hwy 12
March 23, 2004 **	Deary	Community Center
March 24, 2004	St. Maries (2)	Eagle's, 707 Main Street
March 25, 2004 **	Grangeville	Elk's Lodge, 111 S. Meadow
March 30, 2004	Pierce	Pierce Community Center
March 31, 2004	Emmett	Gem County Senior Cit. Center
April 13, 2004	Salmon	Stagecoach Inn Motel
April 14, 2004	St. Anthony	St. Anthony City Hall N. Bridge

** These classes are followed by the LEAP UPDATE



BARHAM LOGGING INC.

By Cliff Osborne

Barham's pickups and machinery read Barham Logging, Orofino, Idaho but you rarely see them around Orofino. They work on jobs from the Floodwood State Forest to strips in the Blue Mountains in Washington.

This outfit has several cats and a skidder but their main production stems around line skidding with their Skagit yarder. They spent several months this winter on a forest service sale on the Palouse River for Bennett Lumber.



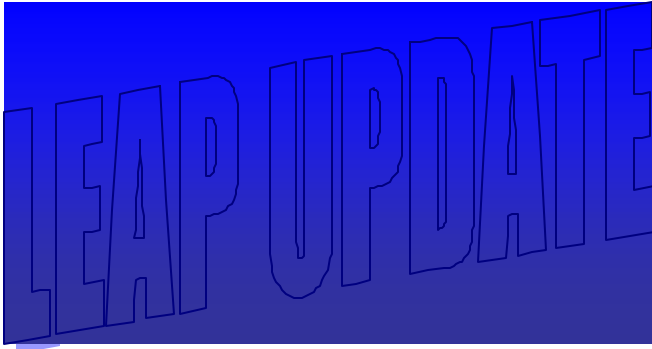
**Brian Hodgson,
Processor**

Mike Knight, who is a part owner in the company, runs the Skagit yarder and explained to me the importance of proper guying and not overloading the machine. Barham's have installed a skyline tension meter that lets the operator know if they are overloading the machine. This tension meter has proven to be an excellent device to lessen the chance for tie-back failure. Mike also commented on the extra miles they get on a skyline.



Steve Barham is the other owner of the outfit. Steve purchased a Log Max processing head and installed it on a 230 cat loader. This has also proven to be a big step in improving safety on their job. With the processor taking tree lengths away from the yarder and bucking them, this has eliminated the exposure of hand sawing. The logs are set out of the way and are loaded later. †

L to R with the Skagit yarder.
**Mike Norman,
Ceberino Ronero,
Jerome Schoonover
and Mike Knight**



NEW THIS YEAR - This program is designed to deepen and expand the training provided in Logger Education to Advance Professionalism (LEAP). The one-and-a-half day refresher training will count as 8 credits. LEAP Updates are co-scheduled with spring first aid training, so participants can get all the continuing education credits required by the Idaho Pro-Logger program within two days. Check the following dates to see which first aid classes they will follow. These will start around 1:30 PM and lunch will NOT be provided.

March 2-3, 2004	Bonniers Ferry	March 4-5, 2004	Coeur d'Alene
March 10-11, 2004	St. Maries	March 17-18, 2004	Orofino
March 23-24, 2004	Troy/Deary	March 25-26, 2004	Grangeville

DO NOT confuse this Leap Update with the three day LEAP classes that most of you have already had in past years. For those of you that need the three day LEAP to get you started on the Pro-Logger accreditation, there will be TWO classes (at this time) offered this spring.

April 14-16	Coeur d'Alene	April 28-30	Moscow
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You need to call Chris Schnepf, 208-446-1680 or e-mail: cschnepf@uidaho.edu, for information on the LEAP classes or to register.



The Department of Lands, Clearwater-Potlatch Timber Protection Association, and the Southern Idaho Timber Protection Association are again planning to provide Fire Safety Standards for Survival Training. This training is required for loggers to work on fires during the 2004 season. The four-hour course includes the one-mile walk test. IDL will issue yellow training verification cards. Contact your local IDL or Association Fire Warden for additional information and to pre-register. These dates are set so they won't interfere with first aid or LEAP.

Sandpoint	3/1	Fairgrounds	0800
Bonniers Ferry	3/4	Fairgrounds	0800
Kellogg			
CDA	3/9	Elks	1300
OROFINO	3/23	Armory	0800
St. Maries	3/24	Eagle's	0800
Donnelly	3/25	Fire Hall	0800
Deary	3/25	Grange Hall	0800
Pierce	3/30	Community Center	1300
Emmett	3/31	Senior Center	1300
Grangeville	3/31	Elks	0800

MISUNDERSTANDINGS OVER EMERGENCY TRAINING

We have heard several stories this past year from people in the logging industry having a hard time with “emergency rescues” in which they have been involved. When they asked for a medical helicopter, they were denied. We have trained and encouraged you loggers to request the helicopter when there is even a slight concern over the seriousness of an injury, *WHEN THAT INJURY IS INDUSTRY RELATED!* Where the mix-up has occurred is when the accidents these loggers were helping out with were of a personal nature, not on a logging job. These misunderstandings are probably our fault for not explaining things clearly, so let me start from the beginning.

Years ago we learned that on any accident, a helicopter *CANNOT* be requested by anyone except emergency workers such as EMT’s, sheriff departments, etc. Because of the remoteness and difficulty of reaching most logging jobs, along with the importance of quick medical help for any serious injury, we obviously had a problem. With that in mind, Kludt visited with the state EMS people to find out what it would take to solve this dilemma.

The hang up was that none of us had any training when it came to working with helicopters, which kind of made sense when you think about it. It seemed the people that own them million dollar whoppity whops didn’t



really want to be directed into a snowy, fogged in landing zone by just anyone. Go figure!

When Kludt explained our problem to the people that make those decisions, they understood our predicament. They said heck yes, loggers could request the helicopter as long as they receive the **PROPER TRAINING**. That is where our “Emergency Rescue” session in our annual first-aid classes originated.

O.K., back to the problems our logging friends had this past year. They were around serious accidents such as a four-wheeler tipped over, a couple of car wrecks and a snow mobile mishap. In each case remoteness and accessibility were major problems. When they were able to ask for help, they used their training and they requested a helicopter. The problem was that these accidents were not industry related. That is why they were denied their request.

So, what I am trying to say is yes, we are trained to ask for the helicopter on a logging accident, but not when we are on our own personal time. In all but one of the accidents I mentioned earlier, the helicopter was the right call and eventually used after the EMT’s arrived.!



A LOGGERS VACATION

By Galen Hamilton

It is that time of the year again when most of the logging in Idaho has come to a standstill for a few weeks. It is also time to make some big decisions about how you will spend that time you are not in the woods. Do you take the kids to Disneyland, perhaps take just the wife to a romantic tropical island or go on that once in a life time fishing trip you have always dreamed about? Decisions, Decisions!

Of course there is one other alternative that 99% of you loggers usually take. That's right; ***SPEND THE NEXT SIX WEEKS WORKING ON EQUIPMENT IN THE SHOP!!!*** (I think I can hear a bunch of logger's wives screaming for joy when this decision is reached each year).

At least you will be in the shop where there is no chance of getting banged up---or is there? I was talking to a mechanic friend of mine and I told him it was hard to write about safety in the shop because the guys doing that type of work know their stuff and don't need to hear about it from no logging safety guy. He said that he believed it didn't matter how long you worked as a mechanic, it doesn't hurt to be reminded about safety.

The reason I was talking to this mechanic in the first place was to ask him about wire grinding wheels. I had recently been told about a fellow that had one of those wires fly out and stick him right next to his eye. I didn't know if some of the wire wheels were just not made as good as others or what. His explanation was, "the wheels are just a bunch of wires sticking out of a metal hub that get



bent back and forth every time they are used. And what happens when you bend a wire back and forth, eventually it breaks. In this case it is then launched from something that is spinning at about 6,000 rpm's. The cure for this is to simply replace the wheels after every use, which of course is not going to happen. That is why you wear the safety glasses every time you do this type of work."

I heard another story of a fellow working in the shop a few years ago who was unhooking the air hose from the coupler on the wall. The hose flew out of his hand hitting him in the mouth and broke out all of his front teeth. That reminded me of two accidents that we have had recently with loggers getting hurt doing just about the same thing

with air hoses. One fellow ended up with a broken jaw that took forever to heal up. I mentioned these accidents to a mechanic and he pointed over to the wall where he had installed manual shut off valves at the outlets.

Of course there is a heck of a lot of cutting, welding and painting going on every spring. I heard someone mention a while back that it is not real healthy to breathe in all of that stuff. Getting adequate ventilation when it is thirty degrees outside is sometimes hard to do but probably well worth the effort in the long run. A mechanic also talked about all the crap you breathe when grinding. "When somebody is doing a bunch of grinding just stand back and look at the air where the sun is shining in.. It is full of crystal



looking stuff that I am betting is not real healthy to be breathing". He also mentioned that the guy doing the grinding may be wearing a dust mask but the guy ten feet away putting on the new mud flaps is not, which is something to think about.

I wrote an article a year or so ago about some serious medical problems a couple of mechanics were having that seemed to be related to continued exposure to cleaning solvent. When I mentioned this to a logger a while back he said, "Galen, think about it. They sell little patches you stick on and your body absorbs the chemicals immediately. We have our hands and arms in grease, oil, solvents and a bunch of different chemicals all day long. It can not be

good for you." Maybe some heavy, rubber gloves made to wear in solvents hanging next to the cleaning tub might be a good idea.

There have been many horrible accidents of loggers being burnt while welding or cutting. Some days in the shop you may work on one project all day long. The next day you may work on about ten different jobs. Along the way there is a heck of a good chance that grease, oil, fuel and other types of combustibles have been absorbed into your coveralls and gloves. Light the torch or strike

*The hose
flew out of
his hand
hitting him
in the
mouth and
broke out
all of this
front teeth.*

an arc and you've got trouble. I will grant you that this is one of those accidents that occurs rarely, but it has happened.

You are probably tired of hearing about blocking up equipment (I could tell the story of Don Hull catching the van with his forehead again), releasing the pressures and lowering the attachments, so I won't mention any of that. Like I said at the beginning, you guys working in the shops know your stuff. I guess it is just a matter of making the effort.

I suppose if a guy did get banged up it would give him a chance for that family outing. I can see it all now. The wife, kids, dogs and mother-in-law all in the station wagon headed to Wally World! :

Mike Hefner,
head
mechanic
for Renfro
Logging.
Mike does
a darn good
job and
does it
safely ~
most of the
time.



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

By David Kludt

I'm assuming that by the time this letter comes out, most of you will be done with logging for another winter and have nothing to do but twiddle your thumbs and look out the window. Have I got good news for you!! There are enough training classes and meetings scheduled for this spring to occupy any free time that you might be willing to "sacrifice". There will be sawmill meetings, log quality training, fire training, LEAP classes, logging conferences and yes ~ first aid refresher classes to mention just a few. These all count towards the Pro-Logger accreditation requirements. I know that the first aid classes do seem repetitious, but in talking to loggers who were unfortunate enough to have to use this training ~ it paid off! Hopefully we'll see you in one of these classes this spring.

A quick review of last year. We did experience one logging fatality in Idaho last year. Logging accidents continued to decline due to a tremendous effort on your part. Since medical costs continue to climb, I don't know how this will shake out in terms of workmen's compensation rates, but hopefully your rates won't increase. I guess we'll find out later this spring.

As you read throughout this news letter schedules for training offered this spring concerning Pro-Logger, you may become slightly confused (as I am). There are many classes offered this spring and throughout the year. Some of these schedules are listed but MANY are not. The ALC handles the Pro-Logger program and it is VERY important that at some time during the year, you call them or send them a list of training classes that you have attended. This will insure that you remain accredited for another year and will also greatly reduce their chance for error in the book-keeping process. Make sure that anything you attend has a signup sheet!!! For more information call the ALC office in Coeur d'Alene at 1-800-632-8743 or 208-667-6473.

That's about all for now. We will be hitting the road soon and hope to see you at one of the many classes. :



A young logger in north Idaho, well maybe not so young, but very safety conscious, decided one morning to plow some snow off his logging roads. It just so happened it was a holiday and no one else was on the job site. He jumped on the cat knowing that he hadn't welded the ice cleats on yet, but the snow had to be plowed and he was going to be very careful. Now, as you all know, when something can go wrong it will---and did!

A patch of ice had formed on the out-sloping road from a spring in the bank. When the tracks hit the ice you can guess what happened. Off the road he went, cat and all. He slid sideways down the hill and hit a tree pretty hard. He ended up with some broken ribs and a punctured lung. Obviously, his problems were just starting. He managed to get back up to the road and to his pickup. Then he had to drive all the way home and finally get someone to take him to the hospital.

If this guy weren't so tough he could have been in real trouble and been one of our statistics. Luckily, he will make a full recovery and be back logging this spring. :



ACCIDENT

A timber faller was struck by a 6 inch tamarack snag he fell. The logger fell the snag into a white fir whip 4 inches in diameter. The snag hit the whip which bent over but didn't break. The whip sprung back throwing the snag up the hill like a javelin, striking the faller across the shoulder and back.

The logger was flown to Spokane by the Med-Star Helicopter because of a suspected broken shoulder and back injuries. It turned out that nothing was broken and he was released with a sore body and numerous bruises.



A cat Skinner relayed a near miss that I thought might be worth mentioning to the rest of you. He was skidding away from a feller-buncher that was equipped with a hot saw. He was working closely with the feller-buncher, admittedly too close, and was setting about 12 feet to the side of the tree being fell. When the hot saw started on the tree the chips shot through the screen of the cat knocking the paint off the side of his hard hat. Luckily he ducked his head in time but realized that only a fraction of a second saved him from possibly losing an eye or serious damage to the side of his face. I'm not sure how easily one of the teeth (cups) could come loose but that most certainly could be life threatening.

It probably doesn't matter whether you fall trees by hand or mechanical, you should be a safe distance apart.



ACCIDENT

A line machine operator crushed his hand when he slipped on the track of the line machine he was working on. The logger was carrying a clutch pack that he was going to install on the machine after making repairs to it. He slipped on the track frame and, instead of dropping the clutch pack, he held onto it. He smashed his hand when he came down across one of the track pads.

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We welcome your comments and suggestions.

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